

Our fiscal house is in chaos because the Government spends too much money—not because it taxes too little. Lowering taxes will help families get ahead, stimulate the economy, and create new jobs and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, as we work to eliminate the deficit and reduce the size and scope of the Federal Government, we should also allow families and businesses to keep more of what they earn.

#### JAPAN: OPEN YOUR MARKETS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, American trade experts are saying that the White House and the Congress should not go forward with trade sanctions against Japan because they have clear, convincing evidence that Japan is going to open their markets, and they are saying that this new evidence can be found in the fact that Miller beer can now be sold in Japan and this new chug-a-lug attitude in Japan is going to lead to bigger and better things.

Mr. Speaker, bigger and better things? Pizza? Potato chips? A few Slim Jims?

Beam me up. There is only one way to get the attention of the land of the rising sun: Midnight tonight put the sanctions on Japan. You have been screwing us for years. Open your markets or pay the price.

The pocketbook is the only thing Japan will understand. Think about it, Congress.

#### SALUTE TO THE ISRAELI CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Israeli Center for International Cooperation, and the 47-year-long United States-Israeli partnership.

The center is known by its Hebrew initials as Mashav, and has developed a remarkable record in nation building all over the world.

Thanks to Mashav, Israel has developed an international reputation for its leadership in agriculture, medicine, and education.

I would like to especially note the impact that Mashav has had throughout Africa.

In Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia, eye-surgery clinics set up by Mashav have restored sight to thousands of people.

Israeli irrigation technology helps to provide food and sustenance for millions.

Mr. Speaker, I recall an old saying "give a man a fish, and he eats for a day. Teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime."

This perfectly describes the influence that Israel, a small but dynamic friend of the United States, is having throughout the developing world.

There is a reception at 5:30 today at 2168 Rayburn. Please join us to hear more about Mashav.

#### FLY THE FLAG, DO NOT AMEND THE BILL OF RIGHTS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, deception is at work in this House today as Congress considers an amendment to our Bill of Rights in the name of respecting our flag, when just last week the Speaker of this House and his emissaries voted to terminate the American flag service here in our Nation's Capital.

This flag office has served millions of Americans, and over the last decade over 1 million flags were purchased for special occasions by our citizens at cost; I underline "at cost."

Nobody should profit excessively from flying our flag. All Americans, even if they are not rich enough to travel here to Washington, should be able to get a flag flown over this Capitol.

Now that Speaker GINGRICH will close down this patriotic service, are we to stick a red, white, and blue feather in our caps for passing a constitutional amendment when we cannot get flags anymore?

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Mr. Speaker, the best way to show respect for our flag is to fly it. Shame on those who have put a price on flying our flag, and shame on those who would trample on our Constitution.

#### BALANCED BUDGET PLAN AND A TAX CUT ARE LONG OVERDUE

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON to Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentlewoman, "I agree with you, MARCY."

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, for the past 40 years the Federal Government has supported its wasteful spending habits by increasing taxes on our businesses, our seniors, our families, our children. This week that destructive pattern will finally come to an end. Republicans will pass the first balanced budget plan in 26 years, and provide needed tax cuts to spur the economy and give money back to the people who earned it.

Despite the whining from critics, I know tax cuts and deficit reduction go hand-in-hand. The only way to reduce the amount of money the Government takes is to reduce taxes. I say to my colleagues, "The Government takes in taxes from you, the people, and I feel compelled to remind everyone in this

body it is not our money. It belongs to the American taxpayers."

Let us help America. Let us give them back what they deserve, a big old whopping mother of a tax cut and a balanced budget. Both are long overdue.

#### IS THIS ANY WAY TO TREAT THE CONSTITUTION?

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today the House will vote on an amendment to the Constitution, and for the first time ever probably vote a change in the Bill of Rights.

Now, changing the Bill of Rights is of such importance that surely this will take place with due deliberation. Well, actually not. It will be a closed rule, no amendments, no substitutes, and precious little debate. One hour for the first change ever to the Bill of Rights in over 200 years.

Is this any way to treat the Constitution and the Bill of Rights? This is not the first instance of disrespect for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights under the Republican majority. We had the infamous H.R. 666, a direct attack on the fourth amendment by authorizing warrantless searches.

Mr. Speaker, now, at the end of all this the flag might fly on high, but the Constitution and the Bill of Rights will lie torn and tattered at our feet.

#### REPUBLICANS ARE TOUGH ON CRIME

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton has launched a \$1.8 million media barrage to showcase his record on crime to the American people. Well, what is the President's record on crime?

For starters, the ill-conceived 1994 crime bill, which cost the taxpayers \$30 billion was filled with empty rhetoric and meaningless social welfare programs.

Remember President Clinton's pledge to put 100,000 new police officers on the American streets? But his program only funded 20,000 cops.

Well, while President Clinton and his advisers talk about being tough on crime, the Republicans have passed legislation in the Contract With America which will keep thousands of criminals off of our streets and in the prisons.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton's solution to fighting crime is to throw billions of dollars into failed social experiments and then to spend millions more trying to convince the American people that he is tough on crime.

The Republicans have proven to the American people that they are tough on crime.